

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-13 SR-02 ORM-03 SCA-01 CU-04 RSR-01 /136 W

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R 241655Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6285

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

CONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES 8

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 4164

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PFOR PO MZ SP

SUBJECT: ALLEGED MOZAMBIQUE MASSACRE

REF: LOURENCO MARQUES 502

1. EMBOFF JULY 24 INTERVIEWED FATHERS VICENTE BERENGUER AND ENRIQUE FERRANDO. BOTH ASSERTED WITH ABSOLUTE FIRMNESS AND CERTAINTY THAT REPEATED MASSACRES AND ATROCITIES HAD TAKEN PLACE, INCLUDING THOSE REPORTED REFTEL. BOTH SAID THEY HAD SPENT SEVERAL YEARS WORKING IN TETE DIOCESE AS MISSIONARIES.

2. BERENGUER SAID HIS MISSION AT CHANGARA WAS BETWEEN MUCUMBURA AND TETE, AND THAT MANY WITNESSES AND SURVIVORS PASSED THROUGH. SOME WERE RELATIVES OF HIS PARISHIONERS. ON OTHER, DIVERSE OCCASIONS HE HAD PREVIOUSLY SEEN DIRECT EVIDENCE OF ATROCITIES PERPETRATED ON HIS STUDENTS AND PARISHIONERS. HE HAD
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ALSO TALKED TO THE TWO JAILED MEMBERS OF HIS COMMUNITY,

WHICH IS CALLED "SEMINARIO NACIONAL DE MISIONES EXTRANJEROS" AND ONLY ERRONEOUSLY "BURGOS", BECAUSE OF ITS ORIGIN IN THAT CITY.

3. FATHER FERRANDO SAID HE WAS AN EYEWITNESS OF THE "FOURTH AND LAST" MUCUMBURA MASSACRE. HE SAID HE DID NOT SEE THE ACTUAL SHOOTING, BUT HE SAW THE DEAD BODIES AND THE BURINING IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER. HE ALSO REPORTED SEEING AT VARIOUS TIMES IN THE PAST WHAT HE CONSIDERED ABSOLUTELY INCONTROVERTIBLE EVIDENCE OF ATROCITIES.

4. BERENGUER ADDED THAT THREE NUNS WHO WERE EYE-WITNESSES AT MUCUMBURA HAD ALSO TOLD HIM WHAT HAPPENED. THEY WERE AT ONE TIME JAILED, BUT ARE NOW ASSIGNED AT TETE HOSPITAL. SUPERINTENDENT OF HOSPITAL, MADRE MARIA, FLEW OVER AREA IN HELICOPTER SOME TEN DAYS AFTER MASSACRES AND SAW DEAD BODIES STILL LYING IN SEVERAL VILLAGES.

5. BERENGUER IDENTIFIED FATHERS MIGUEL ANTONI, JOSE MARIA LERCHUNDI AND ALBERT FONT AS ADDITIONAL WITNESSES EXPELLED FROM MOZAMBIQUE AND NOW LIVING IN SPAIN.

6. BERENGUER AND FERRANDO HANDED EMBOFF THREE DOCUMENTS GIVING INFO ON ATROCITIES. ONE, ENTITLED "TODAVIA UN MASACRE EN EIRIYAMU" AND DATED JANUARY 6, 1973, GIVES DETAILS INCLUDING NAMES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF VICTIMS ALLEGED DECEMBER 16, 1972, MASSACRE IN WIRIYAMU. PRIESTS SAID REPORT PREPARED BY "EYEWITNESSES AND RELIABLE PERSONS" FOR BISHOP CESAR AUGUSTO OF TETE.

7. A SECOND DOCUMENT, "LA PRIMERA MASACRE DE MUCUMBURA" GIVES DAY-BY-DAY ACCOUNT BEGINNING WITH FRELIMO MURDER OF VILLAGE LEADER APRIL 4, 1971 AND CONTINUING THROUGH APRIL 28, 1972, WHEN "DGS AGENT TRINIDADE" IN MUCUMBURA TORTURED A WOMAN "FROM ANTONIO".

8. THIRD ACCOUNT "MOZAMBIQUE 1973" IS GENERAL OVERVIEW.
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9. COPIES OF THREE DOCUMENTS BEING POUCHED DEPT, LISBON AND LOURENCO MARQUES.

10. ANOTHER SOURCE SAYS MADRID MAGAZINE "VIDA NUEVA" JULY 26, WILL CARRY EXTENSIVE ACCOUNT BASED ON INTERVIEWS WITH WITNESSES.
RIVERO

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